

KOREA, Republic of

- Memorandum of Understanding on Education The Embassy arranged for both countries to sign the "Memorandum of Understanding on Education Between the Governments of the Republic of Korea and the United States" in 1981. It was signed by the U.S. Ambassador to Korea, the U.S. Secretary of Education, and the Korean Minister of Education. It has a preface and six articles of General Principles, Methods of Cooperation, Organization and Cooperation, Method of Implementation, Financing, and Terms of Memorandum.
- 2. <u>SAT II Korean</u> With a view to enhancing mutual understanding of the two countries of the United States and the Republic of Korea, Korea has worked to incorporate the Korean language into SAT II subject tests. About \$500,000 was raised to prepare the test and the College Board accepted "Korean with Listening" as one of its subject tests in May 1995. The Korean government then established the Foundation for SAT II Korean in 1995 and tries to maintain support for this test.
- 3. <u>Sister School Programs</u> The Korean Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development has kept its policy to promote schools to establish close relationships with those in other countries' schools, especially those in the United States. Today, about 147 Korean universities/colleges have established sister-school relations with 584 universities/colleges in the United States.
- 4. English Program in Korea (EPIK) EPIK is a government program sponsored by the Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development. EPIK invites foreign university graduates to enrich their lives and build a professional teaching career while sharing knowledge and culture with students and teachers throughout the Republic of Korea.

In 1995, EPIK was implemented with 150 members to improve the English speaking abilities of Korean students and teachers, to develop cultural exchanges, and to reform teaching methodologies in English. In 2002, the EPIK commission recruited approximately 120 new teachers.

Anyone can apply for EPIK if he or she has finished at least ten years of education (six years for secondary education and four years for the bachelor's degree), and is from one of the following six major English-speaking countries: Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

Those who are selected for the program generally teach English in public secondary schools, train Korean English teachers, or assist Provincial Offices of Education (POEs). For detailed information refer to the website: http://epik.knue.ac.kr.

Contact:

Wang Bok Kim Education Counselor Embassy of the Republic of Korea Email: mun8mu@hanmail.net